

SENATE RESOLUTION NO. 697

WHEREAS, The Senate of the State of Texas is pleased to join the citizens of Houston and Texans throughout the state in celebrating Texas Southern University Day at the Capitol on April 27, 2009; and

WHEREAS, Founded in 1947, Texas Southern University now celebrates 62 years of educational excellence and commitment to providing opportunity for higher education to all; and

WHEREAS, Texas Southern University is the second-largest of the Historically Black Colleges and Universities in the United States; the university has opened its doors to higher education for over 11,000 students from throughout the State of Texas and around the country; and

WHEREAS, As an open-enrollment institution, Texas Southern University remains committed to its historical mission of offering opportunities for higher education to underserved students; and

WHEREAS, Texas Southern University has conferred over 48,000 degrees since its inception more than 60 years ago; and

WHEREAS, The Texas Southern University Thurgood Marshall School of Law has been recognized by *U.S. News and World Report* magazine as the "most diverse law school" in the nation; and

WHEREAS, Texas Southern University trains the majority of teachers for the Houston Independent School District, the largest school district in the State of Texas; and

WHEREAS, Among Houston's African American citizens, one in six has attended Texas Southern University; most of the African American pharmacists in the State of Texas have also attended the university; and

WHEREAS, The Texas Southern University National Alumni Association represents thousands of active and concerned alumni in 14 chapters nationwide; and

WHEREAS, The members of the Texas Southern University National Alumni Association and the members of the Texas Southern University Student Government Association are traveling to Austin on April 27, 2009, to visit with members of the Texas Senate and the Texas House of Representatives and to express their support for a strong and independent Texas Southern University for the benefit of higher education in Texas; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED, That the Senate of the State of Texas, 81st Legislature, hereby congratulate the Texas Southern University community on its many contributions to our state and declare April 27, 2009, Texas Southern University Day at the State Capitol; and, be it further

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RESOLVED, That a copy of this Resolution be prepared for the Texas Southern University National Alumni Association president and the Texas Southern University Student Government Association president as an expression of high regard from the Texas Senate.

Ellis

President of the Senate

I hereby certify that the above Resolution was adopted by the Senate on April 22, 2009.

Secretary of the Senate

Member, Texas Senate